

Hay Lam
CHAIR

NWED
NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE		Subject: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - DELEGATED POWERS
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT		
Date: 14 MARCH 1996	Ref: GS/JM/REPORT.010	

Introduction

North Lanarkshire Council will operate a range of training programmes and financial assistance aimed at assisting unemployed people into employment, or self-employment and to facilitate growth within the areas indigenous SMEs. This report seeks approval on delegated powers for the management of these programmes to enable the Economic Development Unit to respond to the needs of business in an effective and efficient manner. All economic development programmes will be managed by the Economic Development Manager with a Senior Economic Development Officer responsible for key functional responsibilities. The key functional responsibilities are:-

- Grants and loans to the unemployed and SMEs
- Training programmes
- Marketing and policy
- Social strategy delivery

Financial Assistance

Financial assistance to individuals or SMEs ranges from £500 grants to the unemployed to loans of up to £30,000 to facilitate business growth. All applications for financial assistance will be assessed by the appropriate officer responsible for that function who will prepare a report on the project and recommend approval or rejection. Formal approval or rejection will be made by senior staff within the Economic Development Unit in accordance with the undernoted delegated authority:-

- Applications with a value of under £10,000 would require to be approved by the Director of Planning & Development. The following programmes would deliver awards at this level:-
 - Employment Grant Scheme
 - Management Training Technology Grant
 - Youth Employment Training Initiative
 - Local Enterprise Action Fund
 - Boost for Business Start Up
 - Boost for Business Growth
 - North Lanarkshire Business Loans
- Applications with a value exceeding £10,000 would require the approval of the Economic Development Committee. Programmes making awards at that level would include:-
 - Employment Grant Scheme
 - Management Training Technology Grant
 - North Lanarkshire Business Loans

In cases of urgency it is requested that the Director of Planning & Development be authorised to make a decision subject to consultation and approval of the Chairman of Economic Development.

A report will be submitted to the April Economic Development Committee seeking approval of the operational guidelines of all North Lanarkshire Council's economic development programmes. This report will outline in detail the procedures to be adopted re the administration, management, monitoring and evaluation of the programmes.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee approve the levels of delegation outlined above.


S. Cook
Director of Planning and Development

For further information contact G Smith, Head of Business Development and Property.



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